

## In the Specification

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

At page 1, prior to line 4, insert the heading and subheading --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 1, prior to line 7, insert the subheading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

At page 2, prior to line 17, insert the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 3, prior to line 10, insert the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

At page 3, prior to line 26, insert the heading --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 2 as follows.

To that end, it relates to a heald frame for a weaving machine, [[said]] the frame ~~comprising~~ including two posts and

two cross-members, each of which is equipped with a head-carrying bar, while there are provided connector means for fixing at least one post relative to at least one corresponding cross-member, ~~the fixing~~ The connector means including an intermediate tubular fixing element that is seated within an indentation or indented housing or recess formed in the cross-member and which element defines an internal volume in which comprising a protrusion from the post, which protrusion is suitable for being at least partially received, at least partly in a recess formed in the cross-member, and also means for the mutual retention of the post and the cross-member, wherein said fixing means further comprise an intermediate tubular fixing element accommodated in an indentation formed in the cross-member, the tubular element defining an internal volume which forms said recess for receiving at least part of said protrusion, while there There are also provided securing means for securing the tubular fixing element within the housing and retention elements for the mutual connection of the tubular fixing element and the cross-member.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 5 as follows.

The cross-member 6 is hollowed out to form an indentation,

housing or recess 12 which opens in the region of the principal end 6<sub>1</sub> of the cross-member. The indentation 12 also opens at the front faces 6<sub>2</sub>, that is to say extends over the entire thickness of the cross-member.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 13 of page 5 as follows.

A hollow sleeve 14 forming an intermediate tubular fixing element or high mechanical strength connector between the cross-member and the post is received in the above-mentioned indentation 12. The sleeve 14, which is produced, for example, from a tubular member which has been cut to the appropriate size, has side walls which, in transverse section, generally form a rectangle.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 12 of page 6 as follows.

There are additionally provided securing means for fixing the sleeve relative to the cross-member 6. In the present case, the short sides 1422 are adhesively bonded to the facing walls of the tabs 64 and 6'4 bordering the indentation 12, As is shown especially in Figure 3, the side walls 2421 and 1422 of the

sleeve 14 are prolonged by extensions 15 and 15' which extend from the upper right-hand and lower right-hand angles, respectively, of the rectangle formed by the sides walls in transverse section.